

## A LITTLE OF ATCHISON COUNTY'S EARLY HISTORY

Atchison county was named for the famous David H. Atchison.

David H. was born in Kentucky, but when a young man westward bound until he landed in Clay county, Mo., where he went into law and politics—mostly politics. He suited the Missourians of that locality and they sent him first to the state legislature, then elected him judge of the district court and finally in 1844 elected him to the United States senate. The governor of Missouri, Reynolds, had appointed him to fill a vacancy in the senate the year before, when he was only 24 years old. He was re-elected in 1846 and was selected as president of the senate, and by reason of the death of the vice-president, William H. King, he became vice-president of the United States. He was one of the most uncompromising and uncompromising advocates of slavery there was in the senate, and that was going some in a time when the principal business of the majority of the senators was to think of new ways in which they could serve the slaveholders.

He was one of the first men to insist on bringing slavery into Kansas territory and when the border war broke out he led a company of border ruffians into Kansas. When the War of the Rebellion opened he joined the Confederacy, but got peace

about something or other and quit long before the war ended. He lived to be quite an old man, dying in 1888. For all practical purposes, however, he might as well have been dead 10 years before that time.

The county of Atchison, named after this man, was described in the act creating it in 1855, by name and bounds, as follows: "Beginning at the southeast corner of Doniphan county, thence west twenty-five (25) miles thence south sixteen (16) miles thence east to the Mississippi river, thence up said river to the place of beginning." Whether using the name Mississippi instead of Missouri was a typographical error or because the framers didn't know any better, I can not say. The county originally had an area of 413 square miles, but perhaps a few square miles have slipped into the Missouri since then.

The first white men to come into Atchison country were French traders who paddled up the Missouri river and located some trading posts as far back as 1754. Lewis and Clark passed thru what is now Atchison county in 1804 and the first Fourth of July celebration was held on Kansas soil that year by these explorers.

When it became known that Kansas territory would be open to settlement, the Missourians determined to get in on the ground floor, and they did. From 1854 to 1857 the Missourians ran things in Atchison county under the leadership of Atchison and Stringfellow and some others.

In those days if a free state man didn't want to have serious trouble in Atchison county, he had to confine his remarks to observations about the weather and his remarks on that subject had to be very brief. In fact, the pro-slavery crowd concluded that they were strong enough to run all the free state men out of the county, and they did forcibly deport several among them Fardes Haller, whom they set adrift on a raft on the raging waters of the Missouri. As Fardes refused to stay away or to drown as they had hoped, they mobbed him the second time and gave him a coat of tar and cotton wool. However, he lived to see most of his old enemies run out of the state and after that lived long enough to read of their funerals.

Atchison county has some of the finest land in the state of Kansas and the most picturesque scenery. The city of Atchison has the most charming location of any town in Kansas. It doesn't grow much, but has a great deal of wealth, perhaps more in proportion to population than any other city in the state.

The town of Atchison has produced a good many distinguished men. John J. Ingalls settled there when a young man and was a resident during all of his brilliant career. John A. Martin helped organize the famous Eighth Kansas Infantry and became its colonel when only a little past his majority. His afterward made the Atchison Champion the most influential daily in the state and served it terms satisfactorily as governor. Chief Justice Horine began his career in Atchison, rose to the position of chief justice of the supreme bench and came within a few votes of being elected to the United States senate. George W. Clark lived most of his life in Atchison and had the distinction of being the first Democratic governor of Kansas. The marble statue of two Atchison men, John J. Ingalls and George W. Clark, occupies places in the hall of fame at Washington. Edgar W. Howe made the Atchison Globe the most widely quoted paper in the United States. Atchison was also the home of R. C. Farmer, who at one time wielded a large influence in Kansas politics, but whose political career with the York bribery exposure. Tom McNeal.

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## GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH HER MOTHER

The sewing room table was piled high with pink and blue and white, with sleeves and skirts and bands and ruffles that at the end of days of rushing work were to result in the daintiness of the gown in which Madie made a picture to rejoice her mother's heart. Mrs. Cameron had been sewing since Madie, and there was a deep line between her eyes and a tired color in her cheeks. When Madie slipped into the room and began idly fingering some pieces she said sharply:

"Madie, you must let things alone. I can hardly get the work done as it is. Why don't you go out in the yard to play?"

"Nancy Henderson is down there," Madie responded slowly.

"Then why don't you go down and play with her? Run away and don't come until I call you."

Madie did not run. She started obediently, but at the door she stopped with a wistful hesitancy. Her mother did not look up, and very slowly Madie went down stairs.

It was a warm spring afternoon and the windows were open, but Mrs. Cameron had no time to look out. The voices came up to her from beneath the window, however.

The first was Nancy's. "What did she say?"

Then Madie's, and Madie's mother knew the wistful look in the brown eyes that went with that note in her voice.

"I didn't ask her."

"Why not?" Nancy's surprise was incredulous.

Madie's voice was embarrassed now and hurt. She was trying to be brave, and pretending not to care.

"Well, you see, she was busy making my dresses. Mother always is busy. Somehow we don't have time to get very well acquainted."

Up in the sewing room overhead the work fell from a woman's nervous fingers. No time to get acquainted! Did Madie feel that way? Why, five years Madie would be in the high school, and in five years more—The sewing was utterly forgotten now. Here was something infinitely more important that must be thought out.

That night, after Madie was in bed, her mother came in. Madie's eager excitement and the clinging of her warm little arms were a revelation that pierced her mother with both joy and sorrow. Holding her close, Mrs. Cameron tried to tell her daughter about the busy days and all the time Madie would be in the high school to take of a house and make a little girl dresses, and that, if a mother and her little daughter were to have time for each other, the little girl would have to help give up a dress or two, perhaps, and do things about the house. It was a long, long talk. Madie was almost asleep at the end, but she under stood—and cared! her mother. Wondered during her own sleepless hours that night.

It was Madie herself who answered under the window with Nancy next day.

"Mother and I are acquainted late last night," the child sang. "I'm going to help her, so that shell have more time for me. We've decided that there isn't anything so important for mothers and daughters as being acquainted."

Yesterdays Companion.

WOMAN WRITER TELLS OF SUGAR MAKING TIME

Many a Midwestern farmer will read with words of approval this description by Mrs. E. E. Kelley in the Tribune, Kansas Republican: "And we are wondering if it has been a good year for sugar-making in Indiana. We'd like to light in a sugar camp for an hour, when the syrup has about reached the 'medium hard ball' stage. Warm maple wax is a thin layer of ice water, with a spoon or small wooden paddle to wind it upon—oh, go 'way! Of course, one can buy a cake of 'maple syrup,' and make taffy and eat it in that way, but what's the use! It wouldn't be the real thing. It would lack flavor of the melting snow, the warm sunshines, the rippled of the crystal runs everywhere hastening on their way to the branch, the drumming and calling of the woodpeckers and capuchins, the smell of wood-vine as the evening wind brings them into your face, and the mouth-watering anticipation as you stand around with your cup half-filled with tea-water, awaiting the right moment to pour it for the delicious wax, which is ascertained by dropping a little of the hot syrup into your cup or into a cake of snow. Then farewell vine for a brief, savorful interval. No brain is ever sharper with a honeycomb than is Madie with a hunk of maple wax. He shuns his eyes and ears, and holds himself to a silent appreciation of the delicious pastis upon his palate" (emphasis only).

Madie was with interest the account of Cyrus Noble, once the favorite of Cyrus Noble who died in the theater of war.

"I pity the fellow that first tries to ride him," said a buckeroo who rode Cyrus for 10 minutes last year. "That fellow is liable right there, to put both sides to flight and end the war!"

IT COSTS MORE TO HAVE IT CHARGED

It is well to be a fact that those who have things charged at the stores pay more than those who pay cash. This will be denied by many merchants, but it is well to be true nevertheless, and it is possibly all right, since it costs money to employ bookkeepers and collectors. A man lately went into one of the best stores in town and asked the price of a certain article. The proprietor told him it was 40 cents. The man said he would take it; for his brother, who had a charge account. "In that event," the merchant said, "the price will be 45 cents." Every article that goes on the books is sold at a higher price.

The merchant admitted that the customers who had a charge account paid promptly a month, but said it was a rule to charge more for goods that were shipped than that was a necessary principle in business. So if you watch out and pay cash, you can probably save money.

Prospects are bright for a clearing up in Mexico City, observes Adam Foote. The foreign diplomats and ambassadors may therefore go to leave.

## TALES OF THE TELEGRAPH TAKES TEAM WORK TO BOOST A COMMUNITY

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bernard Litwin, of Brooklyn, N. Y., are airing their domestic troubles in the telegraph. Harry B. Litwin declares his wife is crazy over dancing; that she uses rouge and powder so freely it attracts unfavorable comment; that she has been told by her own friends that she is beautiful and looks like famous actresses, and should sit on the stage the world would be at her feet. Harry B. Litwin says his wife drives in that flattery. That she gets drunk on other things besides flattery, and that she smokes. The only reply Mrs. Harry B. Litwin makes to her husband's charges is the one every woman, who doesn't get along with her husband makes: She charges her husband goes with other women. Mrs. Litwin wants a divorce and amony, and there is where she and her husband disagree. Mr. Litwin wants the divorce but he wants to cut out the alimony.

Community team work presupposes a natural understanding among the men and women of a community as to its needs and welfare. And this understanding presupposes free social intercourse or organization.

This organization and intercourse for business and social purposes and what it has accomplished is an old story in many of our cities, towns and villages.

But what it will accomplish for a farming community is even more wonderful yet in a majority of our farming communities this still remains to be demonstrated.

Occasional and scattered complaints regarding the condition of the roads in a certain settlement 4 or 5 miles from one city for years went unheeded by the town and county officials, until spurred on by the possibility of securing free mail delivery, the heads of about 60 families affected organized themselves a political force so portentous that their demands were instantly granted. Now they have a splendid road system to markets and free mail delivery.

I have in mind another farming community whose people have increased the value of their farms from 18 to 20 per cent as the result of a concerted movement to improve the conditions about their farm homes, much of which has been done by improving the appearance of their "dairies" and their barnyards.

A little wheelwright from the city was the germ of the organization and size of the idea and the district school was the nucleus of this organization. The idea was contagious and people traveling through this country street. The rivalry may have resulted in some exhibition or craft show in horseback gardening, but it has added many thousands of dollars to the wealth of that community and the investment of money was small—very small.

Yes, community team work will accomplish almost anything that needs to be accomplished. Organization and numbers give momentum to a movement which goes unheeded or unnoticed unless propelled only by a well-meaning individual. Team work will bring consolidation of schools, it will effect church organization, it will provide income courses. It has made possible the choice factors and economy. Its greatest field just now is the standardizing of community products.

The present high price of food products creates special opportunities for those communities which can unite in placing upon the market any food product in sufficient quantity and of uniform quality to give it a character in the market. There are great possibilities in this sort of team work for the farming community greater just now than ever before. The results will be more profit than has ever yet accrued to farmers for their work.

By community team work, the farmers of one community have added \$100,000 to their annual incomes in 3 years by establishing separate agricultural industries, viz., a cannery, a pickle factory, and a cabbage warehouse. They were assured as the result of activity on the part of the various organizations who sought industries which would utilize surplus land. As it appears to me, those farmers have added just this much to their net income for it provides a return on time and acreage from which was no return.

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George Clinton, Doug Morris, James minister and popular man, passed away in New York.

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